

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-identified application.

1. (Currently Amended) A sock, comprising:

a tubular section which has a foot-insert section;

a toe section for covering toes and which is connected to the tubular section, said toe section being knitted into a flat tubular shape, said toe section including a sole section covering a bottom part of the toes and an instep section covering a top part of the toes, said sole section ~~have~~ having a first end at a tip of the toes and a second end at the root of the toes; ~~and~~

a bulge section formed in a middle part of said sole section between said first end and said second end of said toe section,

wherein when forming the bulge section, with the knitting location being held fixed, the knitting needles are gradually decreased, and thereafter, they are gradually increased, ~~and;~~

wherein said bulge section is formed such that it has an arc shape that protrudes vertically downward when the sock is not worn; and

wherein the sock is a fully completed article which is devoid of any openings other than said foot-insert section.

2. (Previously Presented) The sock of claim 1, wherein said bulge section is formed such that it gradually becomes thinner from a side of a large toe toward a side of a little toe.

3.-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) The sock of claim 1, wherein said toe section is formed such that it is divided into a first insert section into which a large toe is inserted, and a second insert section into which other toes are inserted, and bulge sections are formed in both the first insert section and second insert section.

7. (Currently Amended) The sock of claim 1, wherein said toe section is formed such that it is divided into five insert sections for each of the individual toes, and bulge sections are formed for each of the five insert sections.